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The larger varieties of game are hunted by the natives on horseback wherever the nature of the country will permit. Buffalo are now never found west of the Rocky Mountains, and there are but few localities where large game has ever been abundant, at least since the country became known to white men. Consequently the Flatheads, Nez Percés, and Kootenais, the distinctively hunting nations, as well as bands from nearly every other tribe, cross the mountains once or twice each year, penetrating to the buffalo-plains between the Yellowstone and the Missouri, in the territory of hostile nations. The bow and arrow was the weapon with which buffalo and all other game were shot. No peculiar cunning seems to have been necessary to the native hunter of buffalo; he had only to ride into the immense herds on his well-trained horse, and select the fattest animals for his arrows. Various devices are mentioned as being practiced in the chase of deer, elk, and mountain sheep; such as driving them by a circle of fire on the prairie towards the concealed hunters, or approaching within arrow-shot

'then pulling out two or three hairs from his horse's tail for a line, tied the bit of leather to one end of it, in place of a hook or fly.' *Ross' Adven.*, pp. 132–3. At the mouth of Flatbow River 'a dike of round stones, which runs up obliquely against the main stream, on the west side, for more than one hundred yards in length, resembling the foundation of a wall.' Similar range on the east side, supposed to be for taking fish at low water. *Ross' Fur Hunters*, vol. ii., pp. 165–6. West of the Rocky Mountains they fish 'with great success by means of a kind of large basket suspended from a long cord.' *Domenech's Deserts*, vol. ii., pp. 240–1. On Powder River they use the hook as a gaff. *Coke's Rocky Mts.*, p. 283. A Wasco spears three or four salmon of twenty to thirty pounds each in ten minutes. *Remy and Brenchley's Jour.*, vol. ii., p. 506. No salmon are taken above the upper falls of the Columbia. *Thornton's Ogn. and Cal.*, vol. i., p. 392. Walla Walla fish-weirs 'formed of two curtains of small willow switches matted together with withes of the same plant, and extending across the river in two parallel lines, six feet asunder. These are supported by several parcels of poles,....and are either rolled up or let down at pleasure for a few feet....A seine of fifteen or eighteen feet in length is then dragged down the river by two persons, and the bottom drawn up against the curtain of willows.' *Lewis and Clarke's Trav.*, p. 532. Make fishing-nets of flax. *Parker's Explor. Tour.*, p. 90. 'The Inland, as well as the Coast, tribes, live to a great extent upon salmon.' *Mayne's B. C.*, p. 242; *Nicolay's Ogn. Ter.*, pp. 152–3. Palouse 'live solely by fishing.' *Mullan's Rept.*, p. 49. Salmon cannot ascend to Coeur d'Alêne Lake. *Hale's Ethnog.*, in *U. S. Ex. Ex.*, vol. vi., pp. 209–10. Okanagan food 'consists principally of salmon and a small fish which they call carp.' *Wilkes' Nar.*, in *U. S. Ex. Ex.*, vol. iv., p. 462. The Walla Wallas 'may well be termed the fishermen of the Skyuse camp.' *Farnham's Trav.*, p. 82.

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224 23 484 by skillful manipulations of a decoy animal; or the frightened deer are driven into an ambush by converging lines of bright-colored rags so placed in the bushes as to represent men. Kane states that about the Arrow Lakes hunting dogs are trained to follow the deer and to bring back the game to their masters even from very long distances. Deer are also pursued in the winter on snow-shoes, and in deep snow often knocked down with clubs. Bear and beaver are trapped in some places; and, [223] especially about the northern lakes and marshes, wild fowl are very abundant, and help materially to eke out the supply of native food.[164]

222 Their natural improvidence, or an occasional unlucky hunting or fishing season, often reduces them to want, and in such case the resort is to roots, berries, and mosses, several varieties of which are also gathered and laid up

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[164] The Shushwaps formerly crossed the mountains to the Assinniboine territory. The Okanagans when hunting wear wolf or bear skin caps; there is no bird or beast whose voice they cannot imitate. War and hunting were the Nez Percé occupation; cross the mountains for buffalo. *Ross' Fur Hunters*, vol. i., pp. 148, 219, 297–8, 305. The chief game of the Nez Percés is the deer, 'and whenever the ground will permit, the favourite hunt is on horseback.' *Lewis and Clarke's Trav.*, p. 555. The Salish live by the chase, on elk, moose, deer, big-horn and bears; make two trips annually, spring to fall, and fall to mid-winter, across the mountains, accompanied by other nations. The Pend d'Oreilles hunt deer in the snow with clubs; have distinct localities for hunting each kind of game. Nez Percés, Flatheads, Coeurs d'Alène, Spokanes, Pend d'Oreilles, etc., hunt together. Yakimas formerly joined the Flatheads in eastern hunt. *Ind. Aff. Rept.*, 1854, pp. 207–8, 212–15, 218, 225–6. 'Two hunts annually across the mountains—one in April, for the bulls, from which they return in June and July; and another, after about a month's recruit, to kill cows, which have by that time become fat.' *Stevens, Gibbs, and Suckley*, in *Pac. R. R. Rept.*, vol. i., pp. 415, 408, 296–7, vol. xii., p. 134. Kootenais live by the chase principally. *Hutchins*, in *Ind. Aff. Rept.*, 1863, p. 455. Spokanes rather indolent in hunting; hunting deer by fire. *Cox's Adven.*, vol. i., pp. 197, vol. ii., pp. 46–7. The Kootenais 'seldom hunt;' there is not much to shoot except wild fowl in fall. Trap beaver and carriboeuf on a tributary of the Kootanie River. *Palliser's Explor.*, pp. 10, 15, 73. Flatheads 'follow the buffalo upon the headwaters of Clarke and Salmon rivers.' Nez Percé women accompany the men to the buffalo-hunt. *Parker's Explor. Tour.*, pp. 107, 311. Kootenais cross the mountains for buffalo. *Mayne's B. C.*, p. 297. Coeurs d'Alène ditto. *Mullan's Rept.*, p. 49. Half of the Nez Percés 'usually make a trip to the buffalo country for three months.' *Wilkes' Nar.*, in *U. S. Ex. Ex.*, vol. iv., p. 494. Shushwaps 'live by hunting the bighorns, mountain goats, and marmots.' *Milton and Cheadle's N. W. Pass.*, p. 242. Buffalo never pass to west of the Rocky Mountains. *Lord's Nat.*, vol. ii., p. 179; *Kane's Wand.*, p. 328; *De Smet, Voy.*, pp. 31, 45, 144–5; *Ind. Life*, pp. 23–4, 34–41; *Franchère's Nar.*, pp. 268–9; *Hunt*, in *Nouvelles Annales des Voy.*, tom. x., 1821, pp. 77–82, 87; *Stuart*, in *Id.*, tom. xii., pp. 21, 35–3; *Joset*, in *Id.*, tom. cxxiii., 1849, pp. 334–40.

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as a part of their regular winter supplies. Chief among the roots are the camass, a sweet, onion-like bulb, which grows in moist prairies, the couse, which flourishes in more sterile and rocky spots, and the bitter-root, which names a valley and mountain range. To obtain these roots the natives make regular migrations, as for game or fish. The varieties of roots and berries used for food are very numerous; and none seem to grow in the country which to the native taste are unpalatable or injurious, though many are both to the European.[165]

Towards obtaining food the men hunt and fish; all the other work of digging roots, picking berries, as well as dressing, preserving, and cooking all kinds of food is done by the women, with some exceptions among the Nez Percés and Pend d'Oreilles. Buffalo-meat is jerked by cutting in thin pieces and drying in the sun and over smouldering fires on scaffolds of poles. Fish is sun-dried on scaffolds, and by some tribes on the lower Columbia

[165] The Kliketats gather and eat *peahay*, a bitter root boiled into a jelly; *n'poolthla*, ground into flour; *mamum* and *seekywa*, made into bitter white cakes; *kamass; calz*, a kind of wild sunflower. *Tolmie*, in *Lord's Nat.*, vol. ii., p. 247. The Flatheads go every spring to Camass Prairie. *De Smet, Voy.*, p. 183. The Kootenais eat kamash and an edible moss. *Id., Missions de l'Oregon*, pp. 75–6. 'The Cayooses, Nez Percés, and other warlike tribes assemble (in Yakima Valley) every spring to lay in a stock of the favourite kamass and pelua, or sweet potatoes.' *Ross' Fur Hunters*, vol. i. p. 19. Quamash, round, onion-shaped, and sweet, eaten by the Nez Perces. *Lewis and Clarke's Trav.*, p. 330. Couse root dug in April or May; camas in June and July. *Alvord*, in *Schoolcraft's Arch.*, vol. v., p. 656. The Skyuses' 'main subsistence is however upon roots.' The Nez Percés eat *kamash, cowish* or biscuit root, *jackap, aisish, quako*, etc. *Irving's Bonneville's Adven.*, p. 301, 388. Okanagans live extensively on moss made into bread. The Nez Percés also eat moss. *Wilkes' Nar.*, in *U. S. Ex. Ex.*, vol. iv., pp, 462, 494. Pend d'Oreilles at the last extremity live on pine-tree moss; also collect camash, bitter-roots, and sugar pears. *Stevens*, in *Ind. Aff. Rept.*, 1854, p. 211, 214–15. 'I never saw any berry in the course of my travels which the Indians scruple to eat, nor have I seen any ill effect from their doing so.' *Kane's Wand.*, p. 327. The Kootenai food in September 'appears to be almost entirely berries; namely, the "sasketoom" of the Crees, a delicious fruit, and a small species of cherry, also a sweet root which they obtain to the southward.' *Blakiston*, in *Palliser's Explor.*, p. 73. Flatheads dig *komah*, 'bitter root' in May. It is very nutritious and very bitter. *Pahseepo*, camas, or 'water seego,' is a sweet, gummy, bulbous root. *Stuart's Montana*, pp. 57–8. Colvilles cut down pines for their moss (alectoria?). Kamas also eaten. *Pickering's Races*, in *U. S. Ex. Ex.*, vol. ix., p. 34. The Shushwaps eat moss and lichens, chiefly the black lichen, or *whyelkine*. *Mayne's B. C.*, p. 301, *Parker's Explor. Tour*, p. 127. The Salish in March and April eat *pupkah*, an onion-like bulb; in May, *spatlam*, a root like vermicelli; in June and July, *itcha*, like roasted chestnuts; in August, wild fruits; in September, *marani*, a grain. *Domenech's Deserts*, vol. ii., p. 312.

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for entrance, and this is closed up after the bather enters. Stones are heated by a fire in the bath itself, or are thrown in after being heated outside. In this oven, heated to a suffocating temperature, the naked native revels for a long time in the steam and mud, meanwhile singing, howling, praying, and finally rushes out dripping with perspiration, to plunge into the nearest stream.[191] Every lodge is surrounded by a pack of worthless coyote-looking curs. These are sometimes made to carry small burdens on their backs when the tribe is moving; otherwise no use is made of them, as they are never eaten, and, with perhaps the exception of a breed owned by the Okanagans, are never trained to hunt. I give in a note a few miscellaneous customs noticed by travelers.[192]

These natives of the interior are a healthy but not a very long-lived race. Ophthalmia, of which the sand, smoke of the lodges, and reflection of the sun's rays on the lakes are suggested as the causes, is more or less prevalent throughout the territory; scrofulous complaints and skin-eruptions are of frequent occurrence, especially in the Sahaptin family. Other diseases are comparatively rare, excepting of course epidemic disorders like

[191] *Lewis and Clarke's Trav.*, pp. 343–4; *Parker's Explor. Tour*, pp. 241–2; *Ross' Adven.*, pp. 311–12.

[192] The Walla Wallas receive bad news with a howl. The Spokanes 'cache' their salmon. They are willing to change names with any one they esteem. 'Suicide prevails more among the Indians of the Columbia River than in any other portion of the continent which I have visited.' *Kane's Wand.*, pp. 282–3, 307–10. 'Preserve particular order in their movements. The first chief leads the way, the next chiefs follow, then the common men, and after these the women and children.' They arrange themselves in similar order in coming forward to receive visitors. Do not usually know their own age. *Parker's Explor. Tour*, pp. 87, 133–4, 242. Distance is calculated by time; a day's ride is seventy miles on horseback, thirty-five miles on foot. *Ross' Adven.*, p. 329. Natives can tell by examining arrows to what tribe they belong. *Ross' Fur Hunters*, vol. ii., p. 167. Kliketats and Yakimas often unwilling to tell their name. *Gibbs*, in *Pac. R. R. Rept.*, vol. i., p. 405. 'D'après toutes les observations que j'ai faites, leur journée équivaut à peu près à cinquante ou soixante milles anglais lorsqu'ils voyagent seuls, et à quinze ou vingt milles seulement lorsqu'ils lèvent leur camps.' *De Smet, Voy.*, p. 205. Among the Nez Percés everything was promulgated by criers. 'The office of crier is generally filled by some old man, who is good for little else. A village has generally several.' *Irving's Bonneville's Adven.*, p. 286. Habits of worship of the Flatheads in the missions. *Dunn's Oregon*, pp. 315–6. 'A pack of prick-eared curs, simply tamed prairie wolves, always in attendance.' *Lord's Nat.*, vol. i., pp. 71–3.